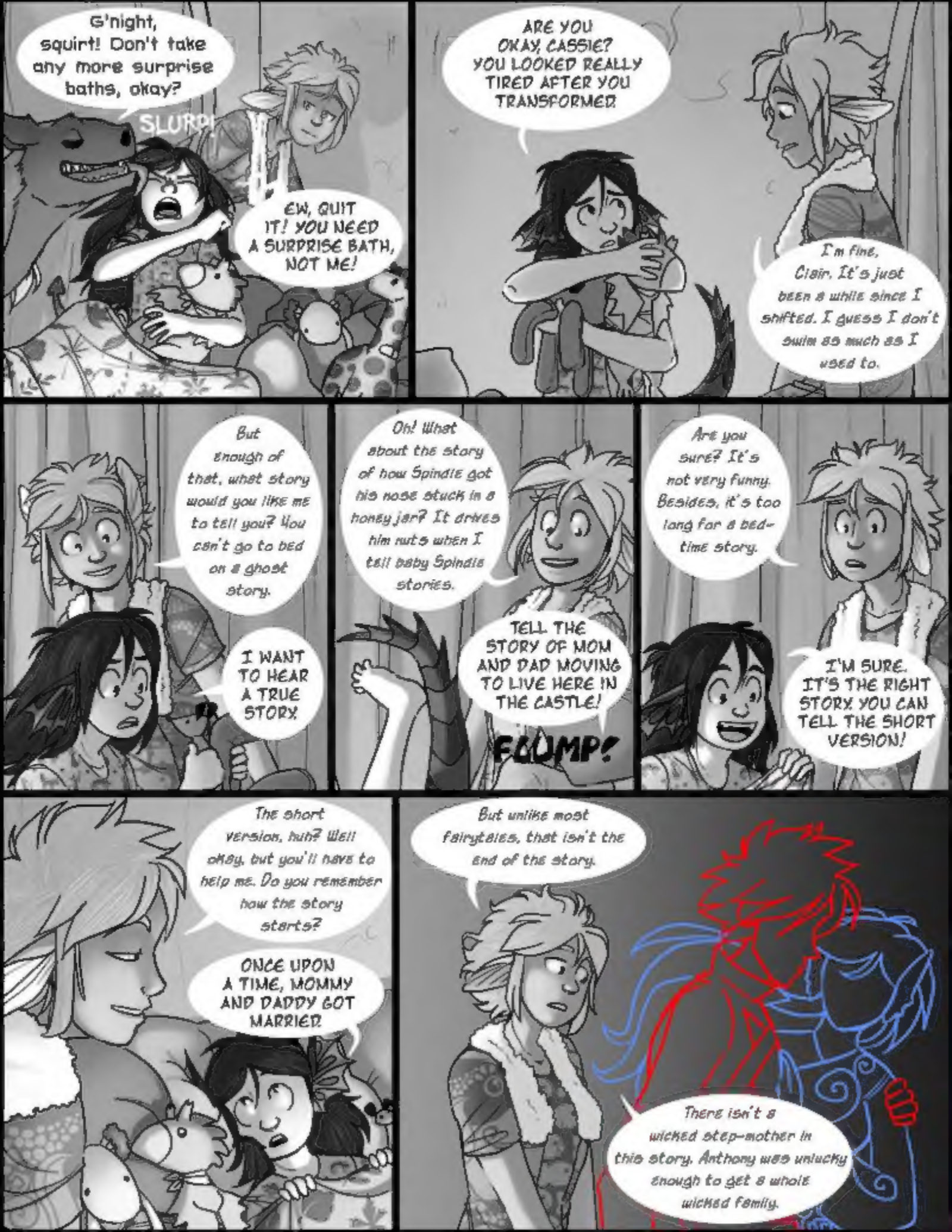
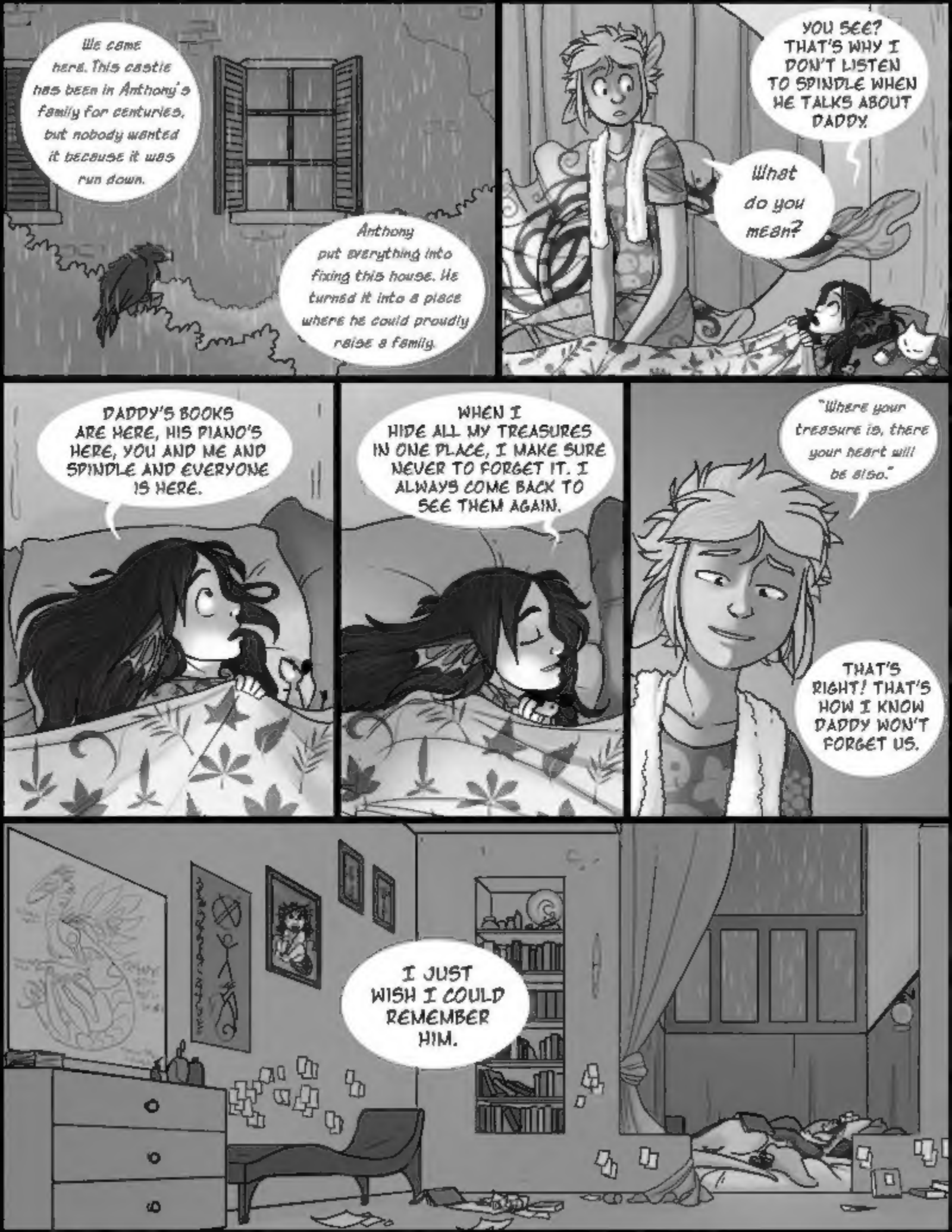
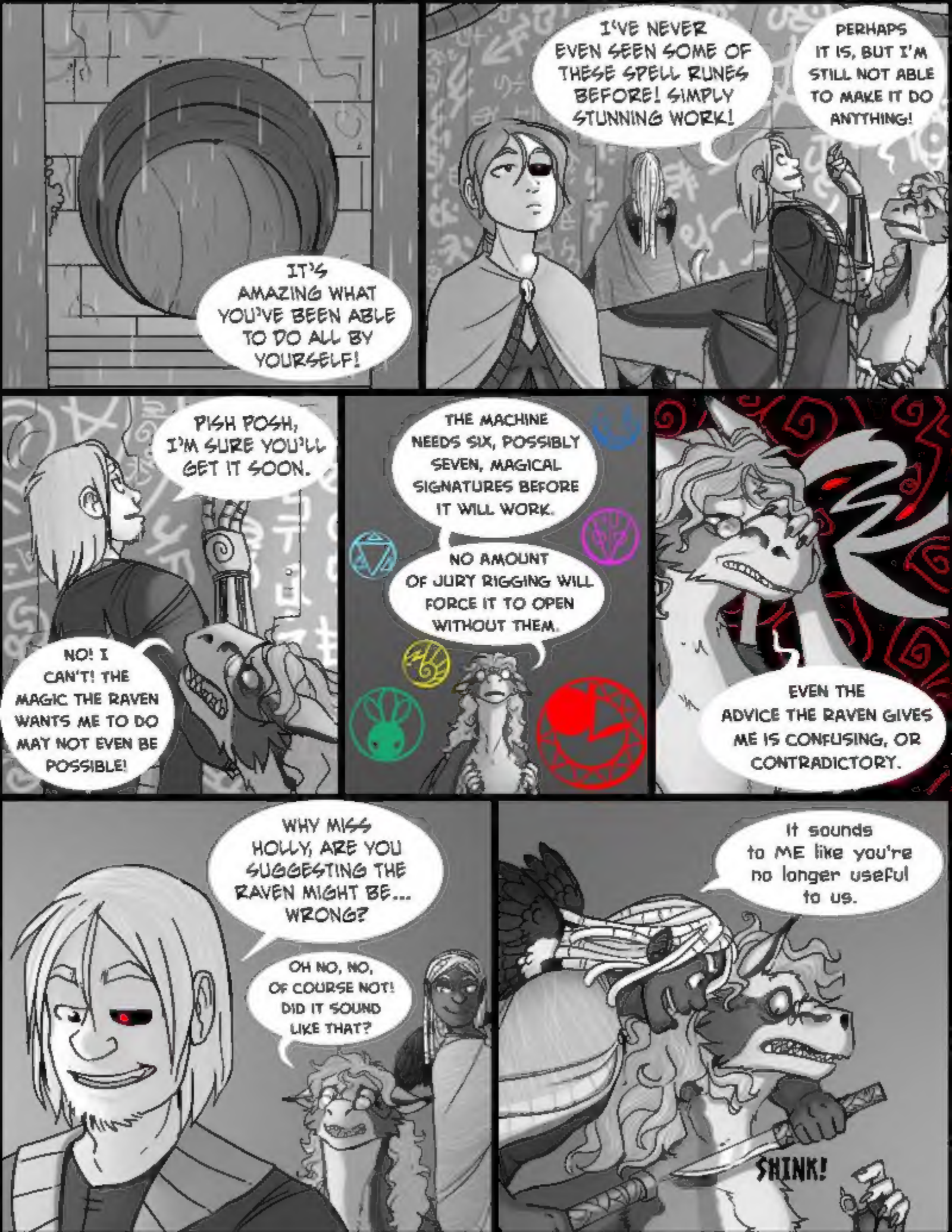

G'night, squirt! Don't take any more surprise baths, okay?
SLURP!
EW, QUIT IT! YOU NEED A SURPRISE BATH, NOT ME!
ARE YOU OKAY, CASSIE? YOU LOOKED REALLY TIRED AFTER YOU TRANSFORMED.
I'm fine, Clair. It's just been a while since I shifted. I guess I don't swim as much as I used to.
But enough of that, what story would you like me to tell you? You can't go to bed on a ghost story.
I WANT TO HEAR A TRUE STORY.
Oh! What about the story of how Spindle got his nose stuck in a honey jar? It drives him nuts when I tell baby Spindle stories.
TELL THE STORY OF MOM AND DAD MOVING TO LIVE HERE IN THE CASTLE!
FOOMP!
Are you sure? It's not very funny. Besides, it's too long for a bed-time story.
I'M SURE. IT'S THE RIGHT STORY. YOU CAN TELL THE SHORT VERSION!
The short version, huh? Well okay, but you'll have to help me. Do you remember how the story starts?
ONCE UPON A TIME, MOMMY AND DADDY GOT MARRIED.
But unlike most fairytales, that isn't the end of the story.
There isn't a wicked step-mother in this story. Anthony was unlucky enough to get a whole wicked family.

They valued their magic almost as much as their noble bloodline.
When they learned Anthony had shared both with a mere tutor...
...well, the family was not renowned for their forgiving nature.
They gave Anthony one last chance. He could remain a part of the family, and keep the power and status that came with it, but only if he left his wife.
Without a moment's hesitation, he chose love over lineage.
So Anthony, Cheska, and those servants that were loyal to them, left the only life they had ever known...
...to find a place where they could make a new family.


We came here. This castle has been in Anthony's family for centuries, but nobody wanted it because it was run down.
Anthony put everything into fixing this house. He turned it into a place where he could proudly raise a family.
YOU SEE? THAT'S WHY I DON'T LISTEN TO SPINDLE WHEN HE TALKS ABOUT DADDY.
What do you mean?
DADDY'S BOOKS ARE HERE, HIS PIANO'S HERE, YOU AND ME AND SPINDLE AND EVERYONE IS HERE.
WHEN I HIDE ALL MY TREASURES IN ONE PLACE, I MAKE SURE NEVER TO FORGET IT. I ALWAYS COME BACK TO SEE THEM AGAIN.
"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
THAT'S RIGHT! THAT'S HOW I KNOW DADDY WON'T FORGET US.
I JUST WISH I COULD REMEMBER HIM.

HOLLY...
WAKE UP, HOLLY
NNNG..
HE'S HERE
HUFF
HWHEEZE
HUFF
pad pad pad pad pad pad
HUFF
HUFF
PLEASE BE THERE, PLEASE BE THERE...
PLEASE TELL ME I'M NOT JUST SOME CRAZY, OLD FEMALE WANDERING AROUND IN THE RAIN!
NNRG!
CREEAAEEKKK
HUFF
HUFF

HE'S NOT HERE...
HE'S NOT REAL.
GOD HELP ME, I AM GOING MAD.
WELL, STANDING IN THE RAIN IS HARDLY THE SENSIBLE THING TO DO.
THEN AGAIN, VERY FEW PEOPLE ARE AT THEIR BEST AT THREE IN THE MORNING.
NOTHING THAT A WARM BLANKET AND A CUP OF TEA WON'T FIX.
IT REALLY IS YOU! THE RAVEN WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, HE SAID YOU'D COME! HE SAID YOU'D BE ABLE TO HELP ME.
THERE, THERE, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE FINE NOW.
WE'RE HERE TO HELP.


IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO ALL BY YOURSELF!
I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN SOME OF THESE SPELL RUNES BEFORE! SIMPLY STUNNING WORK!
PERHAPS IT IS, BUT I'M STILL NOT ABLE TO MAKE IT DO ANYTHING!
PISH POSH, I'M SURE YOU'LL GET IT SOON.
NO! I CAN'T! THE MAGIC THE RAVEN WANTS ME TO DO MAY NOT EVEN BE POSSIBLE!
THE MACHINE NEEDS SIX, POSSIBLY SEVEN, MAGICAL SIGNATURES BEFORE IT WILL WORK.
NO AMOUNT OF JURY RIGGING WILL FORCE IT TO OPEN WITHOUT THEM.
EVEN THE ADVICE THE RAVEN GIVES ME IS CONFUSING, OR CONTRADICTORY.
WHY MISS HOLLY, ARE YOU SUGGESTING THE RAVEN MIGHT BE... WRONG?
OH NO, NO, OF COURSE NOT! DID IT SOUND LIKE THAT?
It sounds to ME like you're no longer useful to us.
SHINK!

CRNCH!
FOR SHAME, VANJI! THREATENING A LOVELY SERANITH LIKE HOLLY, AND AFTER SHE'D INVITED US IN SO NICELY! SERIOUSLY, WHO DOES THAT?!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. HAN USED TO DO THAT.
ISN'T IT NICE THAT HE'S GONE NOW?
Ahah, of course, Captain! I'm terribly sorry, I don't know what came over me.
I AM DEEPLY SORRY FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF MY SERVANT, MISS HOLLY.
MEN LIKE HIM ARE NECESSARY FOR A JOB AS DANGEROUS AS SERVING THE RAVEN.
DANGEROUS?
I'M AFRAID SO. EVEN A SPIRIT AS WISE AND GENEROUS AS THE RAVEN HAS ENEMIES.
AND NONE OF HIS ENEMIES ARE AS CRUELLY DEVIOUS AS HIS NEMESIS, THE DARK INSECT GOD: DRAGONFLY.

CASSIE.
CASSIE.
CASSIE!
Nyah!
PAT! PAT!
THERE'S A MONSTER IN HOLLY'S LAB.
sigh Did you have a bad dream, Clair?
IT'S NOT A DREAM! BENJAMIN SAYS THERE'S SOMETHING BIG AND EVIL IN THE LAB WITH HOLLY. HE SAYS WE HAVE TO LEAVE RIGHT AWAY.
BENJAMIN SAYS THAT HOLLY'S BEEN DOING SOMETHING BAD IN THE LAB, BUT HE CAN'T STOP HER BECAUSE HE'S NOT REALLY REAL.
Hmm, Holly's in the lab?
Oh, not again.
Clair, stay right here. Holly's forgotten what time it is.
OKAY, CASSIE. WE'LL WAIT HERE FOR YOU.

Holly?
Are you there?
What have you been doing down here?
AGAINST ALL ODDS, HE'S ALREADY CLAIMED THREE OF THE HEIRS.
?
THE WORST SORT WORK FOR HIM. MADMEN, WERE-SHARKS... HE EVEN HAS A JABBERWOCKY UNDER HIS CONTROL.
BUT NO ONE'S EVER BEEN ABLE TO TAME ONE OF THOSE BEASTS!
SUCH IS THE MANIPULATIVE POWER OF THE DRAGONFLY.
BUT WHY ARE THEY COMING HERE? THE MACHINE DOESN'T WORK. WE HAVE NOTHING THEY WANT!
I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT TRUE. THESE PEOPLE ARE RUTHLESS.
NOTHING WILL STOP THEM FROM TAKING ALL SIX OF THE HEIRS.
EVEN IF THAT HEIR IS ONLY A LITTLE GIRL.

Clair! Get up, we need to go!
KUH-BOOM!
Something weird's going on, and until I know what it is, I want you somewhere safe.
The bath house has heavy doors with good locks, so we-
CLAIR?!
Silly girl, wandering around by herself.
There are dangerous things in the dark on a night like this.